

2015 EPA National Pesticide Laboratory Analyst Workshop

Overview

- Administered by the Office of Indiana State Chemist
- Hosted by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Food and Forestry (ODAFF), Laboratory Services Division
- Held at the ODAFF laboratory facility in Oklahoma City, OK from May 4 to 8, 2015
- This arrangement used because OK state rules preventing ODAFF from paying for travel, meals and lodging
- Attendees were from 12 states including 1 participant from IN

Topics Covered

- Experience and lessons learned as ODAFF added ISO 17025 requirements into a FIFRA laboratory.
- Hands-on training sessions in the laboratory that include:
 - Pesticide Formulation analysis- difficult matrices/products
 - Analysis of glyphosate in water, vegetation and soil by LC- triple quadrupole MS
 - Analytical instrumentation troubleshooting and maintenance
- A Q &A session with senior program staff from ODAFF regarding the entire FIFRA workflow process, i.e. environmental sampling strategies, lab data generation and the usage of lab data in both the state and federal levels.
- Toured the National Weather Center in Norman, OK

Issues/Lessons Learned

- States as co-organizers was successful as long as both states are physically at the training
- This arrangement did reduce burden on individual states organizers
- Unexpected tornado did effect training, but overall everyone adjusted to the situation
- All participants rated every item on the evaluation as a 4 or 5. In fact, no item had more than two 4's.
- Several ideas on future trainings suggested
- AAPCO Laboratory Committee is currently conducting a survey on future training needs

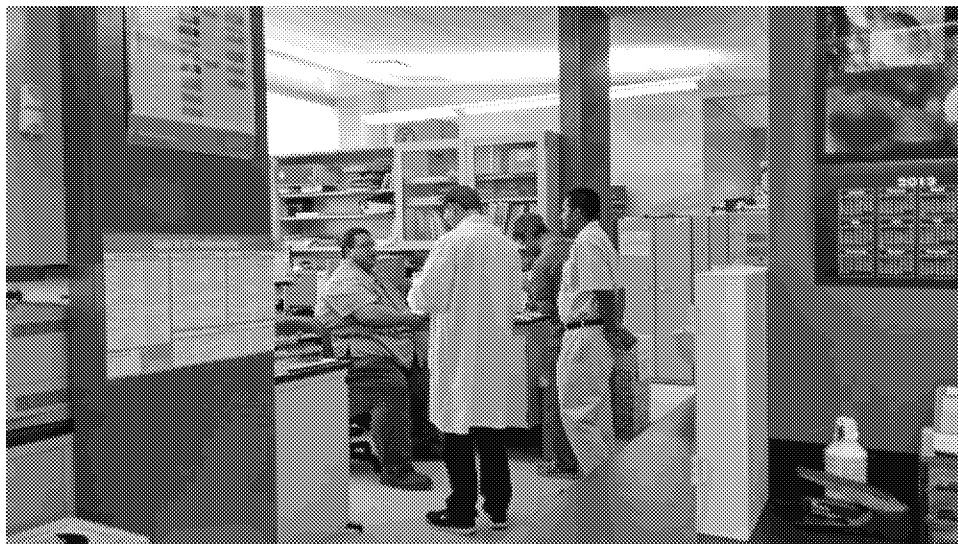
Select Comments from Participants

- This workshop was a great training experience. I will take a great deal of information back to our laboratory. It was valuable and helpful for our ISO efforts for our lab.
- Very good information and topic is very relevant going over the troubleshooting help and I am going to implement in my lab. This is the best training for pesticide formulation I got. The skills and tips I learned will benefit our lab.
- I have not previously considered so many of the different products that pose difficulty for analysis and this workshop session was very helpful - and taught me how to think outside the box for products that require ingenuity!
- Dr. Moser is very knowledgeable to GC and LC instruments. The theory that I learned from him in a half day is more than I learned from any workshops in the past 15 years.
- This method is so simple and so much more efficient than the one I currently use. I will be changing immediately. The efficiency of this method and its simplicity will also help me to easily teach it to others. Thank you!
- I have to wait and see if my work quality will improve but the workshop definitely helped me organize my thoughts on how to do my job correctly & efficiently.

Pictures



Ms. Wan instructing analysts on the proper analysis of aerosol pesticide products



Participants taking turns cleaning and understanding the maintenance needed on a LC Ion Trap source



Group Photo